



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 472

LCO No. 2509



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING STATE FUNDING FOR EDUCATION AND THE BUDGETS OF BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal
5 years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, [2013] 2015, inclusive, the
6 amount of transportation grants payable to local or regional boards of
7 education shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in
8 such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such
9 year.

10 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 10-65 of the 2014 supplement to the
11 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
12 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

13 (b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an

14 agricultural science and technology education center shall provide
15 opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers in a
16 number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written
17 agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such
18 an agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of
19 its students that the board of education enrolled in each such center or
20 centers during the previous three school years, provided, in addition
21 to such number, each such board of education shall provide
22 opportunities for its students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number
23 that is at least equal to the number specified in any written agreement
24 with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an
25 agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of
26 students that the board of education enrolled in the ninth grade in each
27 such center or centers during the previous three school years. If a local
28 or regional board of education provided opportunities for students to
29 enroll in more than one center for the school year commencing July 1,
30 2007, such board of education shall continue to provide such
31 opportunities to students in accordance with this subsection. The
32 board of education operating an agricultural science and technology
33 education center may charge, subject to the provisions of section 10-
34 65b, tuition [for a school year] (1) for the school year commencing July
35 1, 2013, in an amount not to exceed seven thousand nine hundred
36 ninety-two dollars, and (2) for the school year commencing July 1,
37 2014, and each school year thereafter, in an amount not to exceed sixty-
38 two and forty-seven one-hundredths per cent of the foundation level
39 pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per student for the fiscal
40 year in which the tuition is paid, except that such board may charge
41 tuition for (1) students enrolled under shared-time arrangements on a
42 pro rata basis, and (2) special education students which shall not
43 exceed the actual costs of educating such students minus the amounts
44 received pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section
45 and subsection (c) of this section. Any tuition paid by such board for
46 special education students in excess of the tuition paid for non-special-
47 education students shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 10-76g.

48 Sec. 3. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 10-266p of the 2014
49 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
50 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

51 (f) In addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a), and
52 subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year
53 ending June 30, 2006, the State Board of Education shall allocate two
54 million thirty-nine thousand six hundred eighty-six dollars to the
55 towns that rank one to three, inclusive, in population pursuant to
56 subdivision (1) of said subsection (a), and for the fiscal years ending
57 June 30, 2007, to June 30, [2013] 2015, the State Board of Education shall
58 allocate two million six hundred ten thousand seven hundred ninety-
59 eight dollars to the towns that rank one to three, inclusive, in
60 population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said subsection (a).

61 (g) In addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a) and
62 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year ending
63 June 30, 2012, [and each fiscal year thereafter,] the State Board of
64 Education shall allocate three million two hundred sixteen thousand
65 nine hundred eight dollars as follows: Each priority school district
66 shall receive an allocation based on the ratio of the amount it is eligible
67 to receive pursuant to subsection (a) and subsections (c) to (f),
68 inclusive, of this section to the total amount all priority school districts
69 are eligible to receive pursuant to said subsection (a) and said
70 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive. For the fiscal year ending June 30,
71 [2013] 2014, the State Board of Education shall allocate [two million
72 nine hundred twenty-nine thousand three hundred sixty-four dollars]
73 two million nine hundred twenty-five thousand four hundred eighty-
74 one dollars as follows: Each priority school district shall receive an
75 allocation based on the ratio of the amount it is eligible to receive
76 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and subsections (c) to (f),
77 inclusive, of this section to the total amount all priority school districts
78 are eligible to receive pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and
79 subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section.

80 Sec. 4. Subdivision (20) of section 10-262f of the 2014 supplement to
81 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
82 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

83 (20) "Regular program expenditures" means (A) total current
84 educational expenditures less (B) expenditures for (i) special education
85 programs pursuant to subsection (h) of section 10-76f, (ii) pupil
86 transportation eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-266m,
87 as amended by this act, (iii) land and capital building expenditures,
88 and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to
89 chapter 173, including debt service, ~~[(iii)]~~ (iv) health services for
90 nonpublic school children, ~~[(iv)]~~ (v) adult education, (C) expenditures
91 directly attributable to (i) state grants received by or on behalf of
92 school districts except grants for the categories of expenditures listed
93 in subparagraphs (B)(i) to (B)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision and
94 except grants received pursuant to section 10-262i and section 10-262c
95 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1987, and
96 except grants received pursuant to chapter 173, (ii) federal grants
97 received by or on behalf of school districts except for adult education
98 and federal impact aid, and (iii) receipts from the operation of child
99 nutrition services and student activities services, (D) expenditures of
100 funds from private and other sources, and (E) tuition received on
101 account of nonresident students. The town of Woodstock may include
102 as part of the current expenses of its public schools for each school year
103 the amount expended for current expenses in that year by Woodstock
104 Academy from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from
105 said academy of a certified statement of such current expenses. The
106 town of Winchester may include as part of the current expenses of its
107 public school for each school year the amount expended for current
108 expenses in that year by the Gilbert School from income from its
109 endowment funds upon receipt from said school of a certified
110 statement of such current expenses.

111 Sec. 5. Subdivision (43) of section 10-262f of the 2014 supplement to
112 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

113 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

114 (43) "Median household income adjustment factor" means the ratio
115 of the median household income of the town to one and one-half times
116 the median household income of the town with the median of the
117 median household income when all towns are ranked according to
118 median household income.

119 Sec. 6. Subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 10-66ee of the 2014
120 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
121 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

122 (b) (1) The local board of education of the school district in which a
123 student enrolled in a local charter school resides shall pay, annually, in
124 accordance with its charter, to the fiscal authority for the charter school
125 for each such student the amount specified in its charter, including the
126 reasonable special education costs of students requiring special
127 education. The board of education shall be eligible for reimbursement
128 for such special education costs pursuant to section 10-76g.

129 (2) The local or regional board of education of the school district in
130 which the local charter school is located shall be responsible for the
131 financial support of such local charter school at a level that is at least
132 equal to the product of (A) the per pupil cost for the [prior fiscal year,
133 less the reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g for the current fiscal
134 year] fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which support
135 will be provided, and (B) the number of students attending such local
136 charter school in the current fiscal year. As used in this subdivision,
137 "per pupil cost" means, for a local or regional board of education, the
138 quotient of the [net current expenditures] current program
139 expenditures, as defined in [subdivision (3) of section 10-261]
140 subdivision (35) of section 10-262f, divided by the [average daily
141 membership, as defined in subdivision (2) of section 10-261,] number
142 of resident students, as defined in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f,
143 of such local or regional board of education.

144 (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year
145 thereafter, the State Board of Education may approve, within available
146 appropriations, a per student grant to a local charter school described
147 in subsection [(b)] (c) of section [10-66nn] 10-66bb in an amount not to
148 exceed three thousand dollars for each student enrolled in such local
149 charter school, provided the local or regional board of education for
150 such local charter school and the representatives of the exclusive
151 bargaining unit for certified employees, chosen pursuant to section 10-
152 153b, mutually agree on staffing flexibility in such local charter school,
153 and such agreement is approved by the State Board of Education. [For
154 the purposes of equalization aid grants pursuant to section 10-262h,
155 the] The state shall make such payments, in accordance with this
156 subsection, to the town in which a local charter school is located as
157 follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July
158 fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment
159 on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than
160 January first and the remaining amount not later than April [fifteenth]
161 first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

162 (2) The town shall pay to the fiscal authority for a local charter
163 school the portion of the amount paid to the town pursuant to
164 subdivision (1) of this subsection attributable for students enrolled in
165 such local charter school. Such payments shall be made as follows:
166 Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July twentieth and
167 September fifteenth and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later
168 than January fifteenth and the remaining amount not later than April
169 fifteenth.

170 (d) (1) For the purposes of equalization aid grants pursuant to
171 section 10-262h, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection,
172 to the town in which a state charter school is located for each student
173 enrolled in such school, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, ten
174 thousand two hundred dollars, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014,
175 ten thousand five hundred dollars, and for the fiscal year ending June
176 30, 2015, and each fiscal year thereafter, eleven thousand dollars. Such

177 payments shall be made as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the
178 amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on
179 estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of
180 the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not
181 later than April [fifteenth] first, each based on student enrollment on
182 October first. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, the
183 payment of the remaining amount made not later than April 15, 2013,
184 shall be within available appropriations and may be adjusted for each
185 student on a pro rata basis.

186 (2) The town shall pay to the fiscal authority for a state charter
187 school the portion of the amount paid to the town pursuant to
188 subdivision (1) of this subsection attributable for students enrolled in
189 such state charter school. Such payments shall be made as follows:
190 Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July twentieth and
191 September fifteenth and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later
192 than January fifteenth and the remaining amount not later than April
193 fifteenth.

194 (3) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education,
195 the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the
196 planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall
197 invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such
198 meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an
199 amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of
200 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the
201 state charter school for such student pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
202 subsection and amounts received from other state, federal, local or
203 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district
204 shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The
205 charter school a student requiring special education attends shall be
206 responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services
207 mandated by the student's individualized education program whether
208 such services are provided by the charter school or by the school
209 district in which the student resides.

210 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 10-10c of the general statutes is
211 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
212 *passage*):

213 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2015] 2016, and each fiscal
214 year thereafter, each local or regional board of education, regional
215 educational service center and state charter school shall implement
216 such uniform system of accounting by completing and filing annual
217 financial reports with the department using the chart of accounts and
218 meet the provisions of section 10-227.

219 Sec. 8. Subsection (c) of section 10-262i of the 2014 supplement to the
220 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
221 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

222 (c) All aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this
223 section and section 10-262u, as amended by this act, shall be expended
224 for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the
225 authorization of the local or regional board of education and in
226 accordance with the provisions of section 10-262u, as amended by this
227 act. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and each fiscal year
228 thereafter, if a town receives an increase in funds pursuant to this
229 section over the amount it received for the prior fiscal year, such
230 increase shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational
231 purposes. The budgeted appropriation for education in any town
232 receiving an increase in funds pursuant to this section shall be not less
233 than the amount appropriated for education for the prior year plus
234 such increase in funds.

235 Sec. 9. Subsection (c) of section 10-262u of the 2014 supplement to
236 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
237 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

238 (c) (1) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Comptroller
239 shall withhold from a town designated as an alliance district any
240 increase in funds received over the amount the town received for the

241 prior fiscal year pursuant to section 10-262h. The Comptroller shall
 242 transfer such funds to the Commissioner of Education. (B) For the
 243 fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the Comptroller
 244 shall withhold from a town designated as an alliance district any
 245 increase in funds received over the amount the town received for the
 246 fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, pursuant to subsection (a) of section
 247 10-262i. The Comptroller shall transfer such funds to the
 248 Commissioner of Education.

249 (2) Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection (d) of this
 250 section, the Commissioner of Education may pay such funds to the
 251 town designated as an alliance district and such town shall pay such
 252 funds to the local or regional board of education for such town on the
 253 condition that such funds shall be expended in accordance with the
 254 plan described in subsection (d) of this section, the provisions of
 255 subsection (c) of section 10-262i, as amended by this act, and any
 256 guidelines developed by the State Board of Education for such funds.
 257 Such funds shall be used to improve student achievement in such
 258 alliance district and to offset any other local education costs approved
 259 by the commissioner.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-266m(a)(4)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-65(b)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	10-266p(f) and (g)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10-262f(20)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	10-262f(43)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	10-66ee(b) to (d)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	10-10c(b)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	10-262i(c)
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	10-262u(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To make revisions to the statutes regarding state funding for education, to delay the implementation of the uniform chart of

accounts and to prohibit the supplanting of ECS aid and alliance district funding.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]